

final master plan

november 1975

FORT BOWIE



NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE / ARIZONA

RECOMMENDED

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June 27, 1975

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August 3, 1975

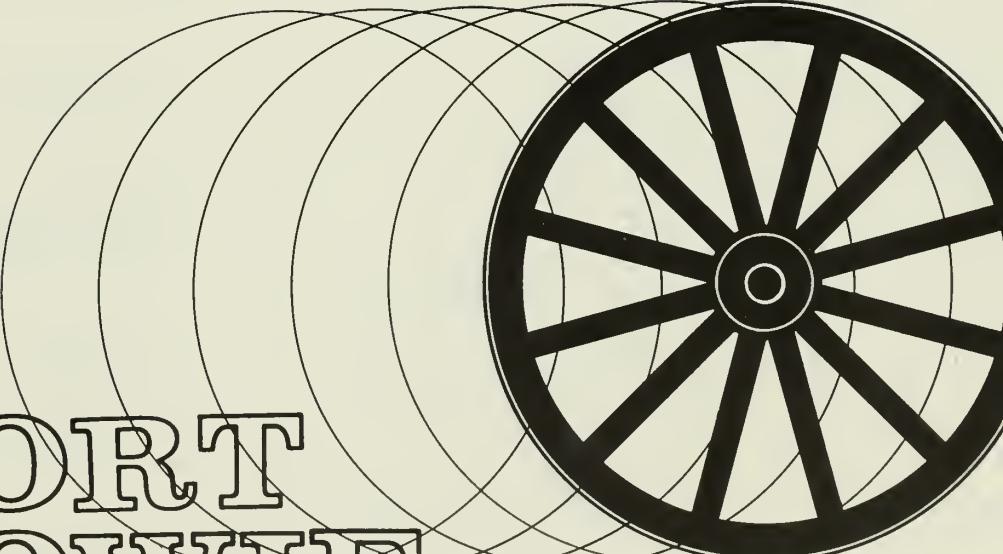
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FORT BOWIE

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE / MASTER PLAN



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Fiddlers' Green

“Half-way down the trail to hell,
In a shady meadow green,
Are the souls of all dead troopers camped,
Near a good old-time canteen
And the eternal resting place
Is known as Fiddlers' Green.

“And so when man and horse go down,
Beneath a saber keen,
Or in a roaring charge or fierce melee,
You stop a bullet clean,
And the hostiles come to get your scalp,
Just empty your canteen,
And put your pistol to your head
And go to Fiddlers' Green.”

— Old Cavalry Ballad,
Date and Author Unknown

INTRODUCTION

Fort Bowie National Historic Site provides a matchless opportunity to interpret the genesis, growth, and eventual decline of a southwestern frontier settlement during the last half of the 1800's. A classic western military outpost situated in the heartland of the Chiricahua Apaches, Fort Bowie bore witness to the tragic clash of cultures that characterized America's westward expansion.

Much of the land surrounding the site of this early outpost remains as it appeared during the height of the fort's historic period a century ago. The surviving natural and historic resources lend themselves to preservation in a primitive state — not to modern restoration or reconstruction. Less is often more, and so it is with the solemn, abandoned post cemetery and the silent ruins of the cavalry barracks and the Butterfield Overland Mail station.

Apache Spring — a reliable source of water — was the dominant feature in the historic landscape, drawing animals, Indians, soldiers, and settlers to the mountain pass that provides the setting for Fort Bowie. Man's dependence upon Nature's gifts, and the priceless value of water in this arid land, are significant facets of the interpretive story.

Fort Bowie has not yet received heavy visitation, and opportunities exist for managers to expand and implement recommendations in an orderly manner. The philosophy of this plan suggests low-profile development. Innovative interpretation will provide visitors with a richer experience by encouraging them to view the scene through their own imaginative mind's eye.

If the concept of a "primitive historical area" fails as a productive experiment, then the lack of onsite development will lessen the problems of future planners in recommending a more formal and structured approach to facility construction and ruins preservation.

B A C K G R O U N D

PURPOSE

Fort Bowie National Historic Site was established to preserve the site and remaining structures of Fort Bowie, situated in Cochise County, Arizona. The features include the remains of the first and second forts, the remnants of the Butterfield Overland Trail, and associated historic sites concerned with life in this frontier settlement between 1854 and 1894.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Historical.

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND AND COMMITMENTS

Fort Bowie National Historic Site was authorized by an act of Congress dated 30 August 1964 (Public Law 88-510). Lands were acquired pursuant to the act, and the park was formally established in July 1972. Several legislative commitments and agreements were part of the process, and therefore affect this master plan.

The amount of land that can be acquired for the historic site is limited to 1,000 acres, and the acquisition-and-development funding ceiling has been set at \$550,000. By mid-1973, 970 acres had been acquired, and about \$250,000 expended. Legislation will be sought to increase the ceiling to \$1,000,000, to allow for proposed development, with some reserve to cover price escalation for the next 5 to 10 years. In the meantime, all land acquisition under the 1,000-acre limit of the enabling act will be accomplished only after mutual agreements and guarantees are established with adjoining private landowners.

Approximately 80 unpatented mining claims predate the establishment of the historic site, but appear to be abandoned as no annual assessment work has been recorded. Arizona Land Order 035307 withdrew from mineral entry 590 acres of public domain administered by the Bureau of Land Management adjacent to the historic site; this buffer zone was established to preserve, protect, and enhance scenic and natural values, and to prevent adverse uses and visual intrusions. An additional 1,780 acres are presently proposed for withdrawal.

By administrative agreement, the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the management of grazing use on lands within the historic site. Agreements covering grazing rights, water rights, and access to water are still in force with the two neighboring ranches.

Rights-of-way and/or easements are in effect for the Apache Pass road (Cochise County), a gas pipeline (El Paso Natural Gas Company), and the Apache Pass electricity-transmission line (Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative).

THE REGION

Fort Bowie, lying in the southeastern corner of Arizona at an elevation of 5,000 feet, occupies the southern fringes of Apache Pass, which separates the Dos Cabezas Mountains from the Chiricahua Mountains. These desert ranges lie north and south of Fort Bowie, respectively, and trend roughly northwest to southeast.

The immediate vicinity of Apache Pass and the historic site is characterized by rugged terrain. East of the pass lies the broad, flat San Simon Valley; Sulphur Springs Valley, a similar landform, extends to the west. This area is part of the Mexican Highland section of the Basin and Range province, with elevations generally ranging between 4,000 and 6,000 feet. However, Chiricahua Peak to the south reaches

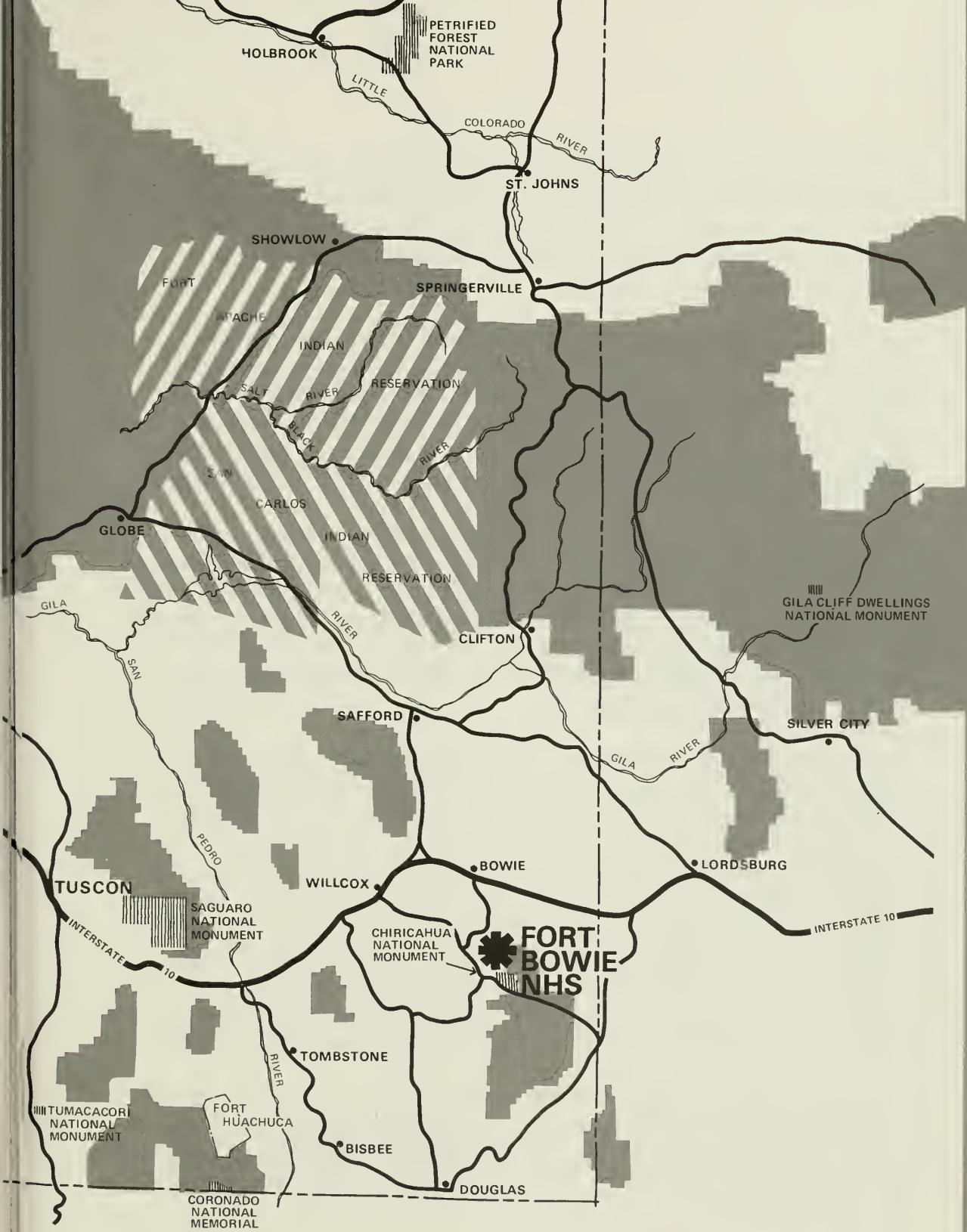


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The Region

FORT BOWIE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



NATIONAL FOREST

0 10 20 30
MILES



9,796 feet, and Mt. Graham to the northwest rises to a height of 10,713 feet. Typical Upper and Lower Sonoran Desert vegetation flourishes in the region, with pinyon/juniper associations at higher elevations, and grass, yucca, agave, and some cactuses at lower elevations. A variety of deciduous trees can be seen along streambeds and around springs.

Fort Bowie is situated in a sparsely populated section of the State, about 25 airline miles west of the Arizona/New Mexico border and 60 miles north of the boundary between the United States and Mexico. The historic site lies 13 road miles south of Bowie, Arizona (population 500), and 35 miles southeast of Willcox, Arizona (population 2,570). The nearest large towns are Tucson (population 265,000), 120 miles west, and El Paso (population 323,000), 200 miles east.

Interstate 10 — a major east-west route for transcontinental travelers — serves as the primary regional highway; exits at Bowie and Willcox connect with roads leading to the historic site. The county road from Bowie — the Apache Pass road — is unpaved; from Willcox, road access is over 23 miles of paved highway — Arizona 186 — and 12 miles of the Apache Pass road. Fort Bowie is accessible from the southwest along U.S. 666 and Arizona 181 and 186. Willcox and Bowie provide food, lodging, and automotive services.

Livestock grazing is the principal land use in this generally arid region, and cattle ranchers have leased large amounts of public domain adjoining the historic site for grazing purposes. Irrigation farming in the nearby valleys has increased on a limited scale since 1945, and appears to have a future in the local economy. Tourism currently contributes little to the present economy, but may become an important income source as more people vacation in the region. Four units of the National Park System, portions of three national forests, and other Federal and State recreation lands lie within a 100-mile radius of Fort Bowie. The city of Willcox owns and operates the Cochise Visitor Center and Museum, situated on Interstate 10 in that city. The museum presently provides exhibits relating to the Chiricahua Apaches and Fort Bowie, and additional exhibits are planned.

Land-development companies are currently active throughout the region, specializing in selling desert and mountain properties for retirement homes and land investments. Mining, once the economic mainstay of southeastern Arizona, is facing an uncertain future as mineral deposits become exhausted and stricter environmental-protection laws are enacted.

Climate is an asset in the region; sunshine and low humidity prevail all year. Winters are cool and dry, with moderate temperatures. Summer weather is hot during the day, but cool at night. Most of the annual precipitation occurs from July through September.

THE RESOURCE

The rugged mountains of Apache Pass provide an appropriate setting for the ruins of Fort Bowie. Together, the pass and the fort vividly recapture the mood of this significant army post and the unfolding drama of the southwestern frontier. The eroded adobe ruins, the cool waters of Apache Spring, and the ruts of historic roadways — all set against a primitive natural backdrop — create an ambience in which visitors can visualize the significance of this important segment of frontier history. Because of the water in Apache Spring, immigrants and Butterfield mail coaches first traveled through the pass in the 1850's; for the same reason,

John Butterfield built a stage station there in 1858. Around this building raged two battles between the Army and the Chiricahua Apache band led by Cochise: the Bascom Affair of 1861, which touched off the long and costly Cochise War; and the Battle of Apache Pass in 1862, which led directly to the founding of the first Fort Bowie.

Until the final surrender of Geronimo in 1886, Fort Bowie served as the nerve center of military operations against the Chiricahua Apaches. Campaigns ranged throughout southern Arizona and New Mexico, and into northern Mexico. The struggle for control of the land determined the patterns of frontier development in the Southwest; not until the Apache Wars ended did settlement spread.

Prime historical resources at Fort Bowie include the ruins of the first and second forts, the Butterfield Overland Mail station, the post cemetery, and traces of the immigrant route/Butterfield trail and later military roads. Sites include Apache Spring, the 1854 Parke camp (part of the southern railroad route survey), the Bascom Affair site, and the 1861 wagon-train massacre site. As might be expected, there are other historic remains and sites related to the frontier settlement period of 1854 to 1894; some have not been precisely located, and further historical research and archeological investigation are needed. Prehistoric Indian sites have been found, and additional remains of both prehistoric and historic Indian occupation probably exist within the park.

Natural and scenic resources include the immediate mountain-and-vale environs, and the distant valleys and mountain ranges that can be viewed from the site. The rugged hill/ravine topography in the vicinity cries "ambush." The vegetation — often hostile, and thick with thorns and spines — emphasizes the harshness of the land. But deciduous groves at Apache Spring and in the upper canyons offer shade and soften the sun's glare, reminding one of the water that drew men to this tortuous and often dangerous mountain pass.

These resources speak of men in conflict — both with one another and with the unyielding desert environment. As in any conflict, some conquered while others were defeated. But within the frontier procession of Indian and immigrant, of scout and soldier, of stage driver and freighter, diverse people — bound by a common need for water, shelter, and safety — came together in this arid land. From a full understanding of their struggles, failures, and successes will emerge a microcosmic tapestry of southwestern history.

THE PLAN

All planning and management for Fort Bowie will support the concept of preserving the park's atmosphere of natural wilderness and historic abandonment. Therefore, a "light touch" is important: Funds will be programmed to restore or maintain the natural and historic scene, rather than to introduce incompatible modern facilities into the landscape; no conjectural reconstruction or restoration of buildings will be carried out. The majority of structures needed for administrative and operational services will be situated away from the historic site; onsite development will be kept to an absolute minimum, and its design will be in harmony with the primitive nature of the site. Stabilization of ruins, subtle interpretation, and preservation of the natural desert-mountain scene are necessary elements of this plan.

MAINTAINING THE HISTORIC SETTING

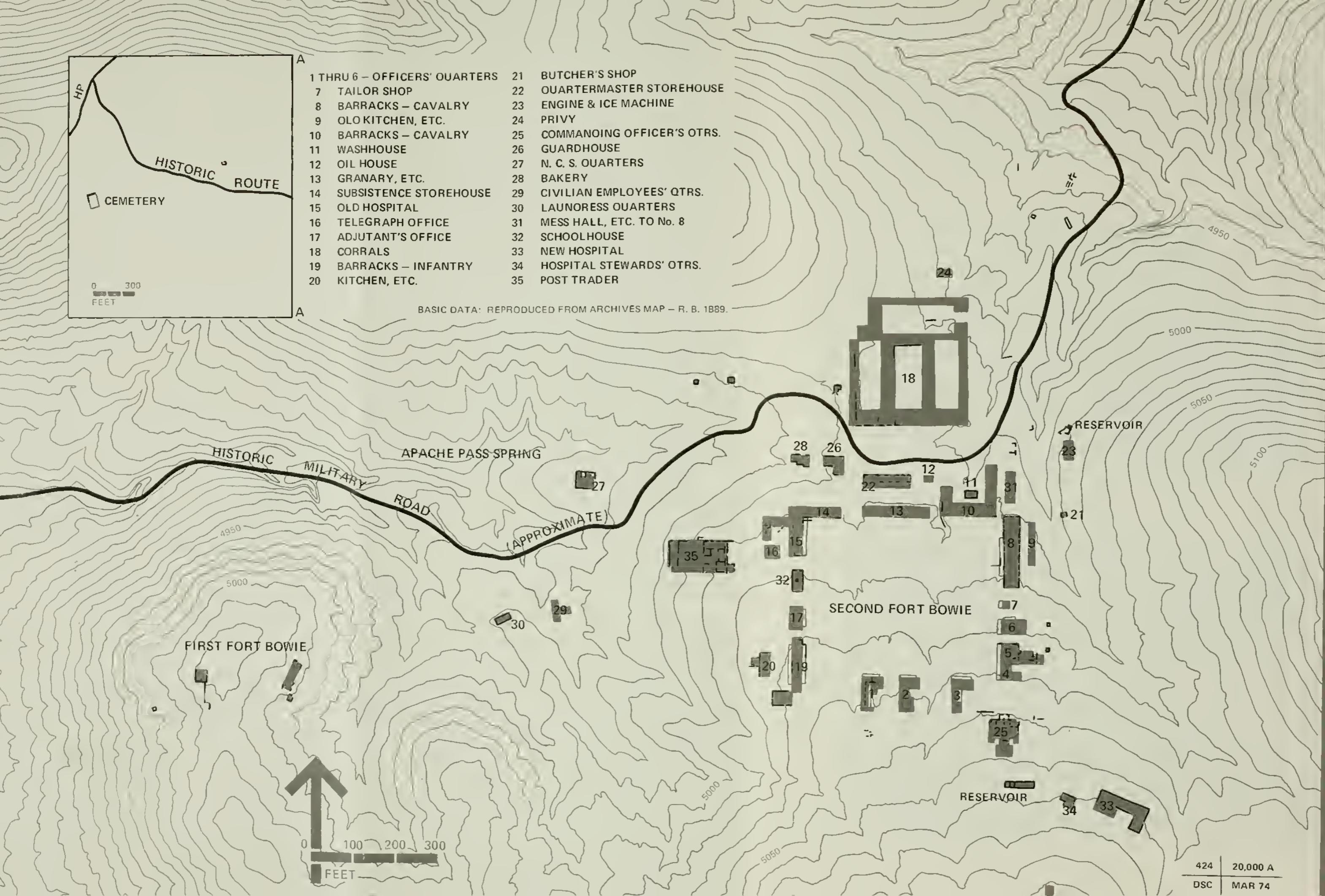
With the establishment of Fort Bowie National Historic Site in 1972, a new land use was introduced into a region that had been traditionally utilized for grazing and mining. Although the park and its surroundings still manifest the essential characteristics of wilderness, careless development or incompatible use of lands within and adjacent to the historic site could easily destroy this setting. Grazing and mining activities could potentially hinder historic-site preservation and interpretation; vacation homes and retirement subdivisions in the vicinity would intrude on the historic/natural scene. Because the "primitive historical area" concept underlying site interpretation relies wholly on the integrity of the visual setting, it is planned that the following land-use issues be cooperatively resolved.

In accordance with the recommendations of the subcommittee hearing on public lands (Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, S.91, 5.29.64.6), cattle grazing will continue, and rights will be retained by the permittees. Grazing — particularly in prime historical and interpretive areas of the park — could potentially cause safety hazards, and result in unsightly conditions and damage to the resource. The Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management will continue

Map

FORT BOWIE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Historic Base Map



to cooperate in defining and encouraging wise range-management practices to be followed by grazing permittees. Overgrazing and indiscriminate off-road vehicle use, both of which could easily mar this fragile primitive landscape, should be avoided; stock tanks, fences, and other needed developments should be sensibly located and as unobtrusive as possible. The continued cooperation of the permittees should ensure that sound range management is practiced both within and adjacent to the historic site.

Long-range county highway plans call for paving the Apache Pass road. The Park Service will work closely with the State and county to obtain a historic parkway designation for the Apache Pass road, with rural highway standards applied. Realignment and regrading will be necessary from the mouth of Siphon Canyon to Apache Pass for safety and maintenance purposes. Prime consideration should be given to the preservation of the historic and natural features.

Land use at the mouth of Siphon Canyon is not federally regulated, and the potential for incompatible private development here threatens the historic setting alongside the Apache Pass road. A land exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and the landowner will be encouraged, to protect the mouth of Siphon Canyon and to provide the Bureau of Land Management with a continuous buffer zone. To protect the visual setting of Apache Pass, the remaining acreage allotment under the 1,000-acre limit will be used to purchase lands at the summit of the pass, and the park boundary will be extended to include these lands. The Park Service has proposed to the Bureau that an additional 1,780 acres of land be withdrawn and reserved as a buffer zone.

Historic Apache Spring currently serves as a primary water source for cattle permitted to graze within the historic site. Formal agreement to preclude unsightly and intrusive development at Apache Spring is needed.

Utility rights-of-way adjacent to and through the park display evidence of modern society. Telephone and electrical lines are visible, and the location of the buried natural-gas line is obvious because of a bladed swath that cuts through the native vegetation. These necessary utilities will be camouflaged when advances in technology provide alternate solutions for utility placement and maintenance.

MANAGING THE HISTORIC SITE

One of the most serious problems affecting management of Fort Bowie is the weather-caused deterioration of the remaining adobe structures; stabilization work to date has not been successful. Because the continued existence of these historic ruins is of key importance in the "historical abandonment" concept, first priority will be

given to stabilization and preservation efforts. Cooperative research will continue between Park Service archeologists and interested staff of other agencies to determine an appropriate and effective method of long-term preservation of unroofed adobe walls.

A comprehensive archeological investigation will be implemented, to locate and evaluate other historic sites and structures, as well as prehistoric sites, in the area. Because some of the historic sites (such as portions of Apache Pass) and many of the historic remains relating to the Fort Bowie story lie outside the present park boundaries, the cooperation of Federal, State, and county agencies, and local residents will be sought.

Although the need to establish a park carrying-capacity figure is not apparent at present, the time may come when the number of visitors detracts from the mood of abandonment and isolation. Therefore, visitor use will be carefully monitored in future years, to determine how and when visitation should be managed.

ENHANCING THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE: INTERPRETATION

The American landscape is dotted with places that rose rapidly to prominence during the rush westward. Some settlements that began as jumping-off places to the frontier changed with the times, and thrived. Others declined as rapidly as they had sprung up, when a railroad passed them by or the mines played out.

While they lasted, the frontier towns and forts provided the stage for a robust drama – the more poignant in retrospect because of the melancholic emptiness that pervades many of the sites. Abandoned places have universal appeal: Populated with phantoms of the imagination, they retain a strong imprint of the people who lived and struggled there.

Few abandoned sites are so pristine in mood and manifest in import as Fort Bowie. Isolated in the pass that was the fort's reason for existence, the remnants of adobe walls stand like tombstones marking the patch of desert that retreated rapidly into obscurity when its moment of destiny had passed. Still flowing, but with an importance now largely symbolic, is the precious trickle of water that set the drama in motion – Apache Spring.

Much of frontier history's fascination lies in the recurrence of basic human equations. In a land of little water, a spring becomes the focal point of contention, and the scene is reduced to fundamentals nearly as crude as bands of cave dwellers battling with clubs over a water hole. But the difference between a skirmish over water and a war for control of oil fields is one of degree only. Regardless of how

many layers of civilization obscure such a conflict, human needs remain the same. Apache Spring represents the focus of an ancient and perpetual struggle for the limited resources of the world. It provides the proper setting for considering basic needs and the desire to control the sources of fulfillment.

Themes

Fort Bowie will be interpreted as a strategic outpost that evolved into a thriving frontier military community during the long conflict with the Chiricahua Apaches — only to be abandoned after the threat to immigration and settlement ceased. The following themes, although listed separately, will be treated in a holistic fashion.

Primary Themes

- The Fort Bowie frontier military story
- The Chiricahua Apache Indian story
- The Butterfield Overland stage story

Secondary Themes

- The natural history story
- The Spanish story
- The prehistory story
- The railroad and boundary stories

Methods

The choice of interpretive methods will be governed by two important factors: preservation of the mood of abandonment, and compatibility with the concept of a primitive historical area. These factors are, in reality, one and the same. Visitors should experience a historic site largely reclaimed by the natural forces it was established to cope with. This will require some effort on their part, as well as a minimum of visual and auditory intrusion.

A series of wayside exhibits along the Apache Pass road will provide an introduction to Fort Bowie National Historic Site: Exhibits at or along Apache Pass, the massacre site, the historic Butterfield route, the ruins viewpoint, the trailhead parking area on the Apache Pass road, Siphon Canyon, and other selected points will describe the historical significance of these sites, and their interrelationships. At the trailhead parking area, an interpretive shelter will be constructed. Information available in this unmanned shelter will describe the history of Fort Bowie in greater detail, and will also indicate the trail route leading to the historic sites and structures within the park. No other automobile access into the park is proposed.

For visitors who accept the invitation to explore further, the existing 1.5-mile trail departs from the parking area, passes several major historic sites, and ends

at the remains of the second Fort Bowie. Apache Spring, near the end of the trail, will provide an opportunity for visitors to experience the source and substance of the historic struggle. Arriving hot and tired, they will be able to drink the precious commodity that was so critical to the story of Apache Pass.

At the second fort site, a series of inconspicuous exhibits are proposed to describe the various buildings and explain their historic functions. Wherever possible, period photographs will be included.

A loop extension of the self-guiding trail is proposed that will follow Overlook Ridge, north of the fort site, and return to the trailhead parking area. A wayside exhibit on this ridge will provide a summary of the fort story. The viewpoint here may be that of the dispossessed Apache, gazing down on the land where he once walked freely, on the site of the ancestral spring where he is no longer able to drink, on the flag that waves flauntingly in the breeze proclaiming that this land now belongs to all men.

The interesting and significant story of heliograph communications (telegraphing by using a mirror to reflect sun's rays) will also be interpreted.

Environmental Living

Environmental-living programs will be continued at Fort Bowie. These programs will reflect the historic-abandonment theme, will be carried out away from the fragile ruins area, and will be designed to achieve a balance between the Army story and that of the Indians. Standard living-history demonstration programs will not be implemented at the historic site, in keeping with the abandonment theme.

Publications

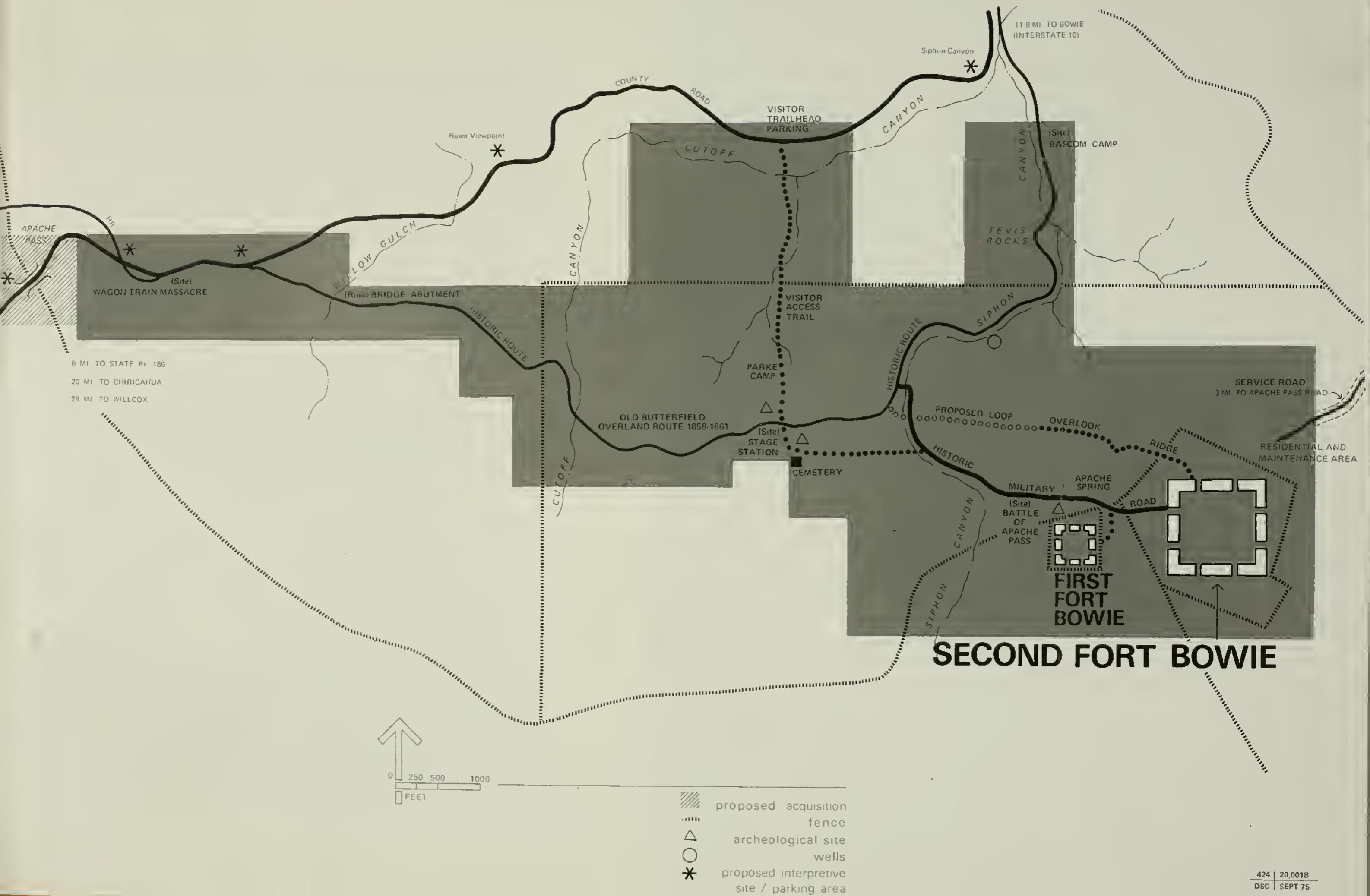
Because little exhibitory is proposed to convey information, an incisive publications program will be required to do justice to the multi-faceted story of Fort Bowie. A series of monographs — each treating one of the interpretive themes — will aid in communicating this story.

PROVIDING SERVICES: DEVELOPMENT

Because of Fort Bowie's isolation, and because the historic site is not yet well known to travelers, relatively few people visit the area — about 6,000 annually. Many visitors come from the immediate region, and reach the park by private automobile on Interstate 10, either through Willcox or Bowie; the balance arrive from the south, coming from the Bisbee/Douglas area via Chiricahua National Monument.

General Development

FORT BOWIE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



The majority of visitors to Fort Bowie park their cars at the trailhead parking lot, and hike the 1.5-mile interpretive trail to the fort ruins. The parking lot and access trail adequately accommodate present numbers of visitors; when use warrants, the interpretive shelter and minimal restroom facilities will be provided.

No privately owned commercial facilities will be permitted within the historic site. All sale items will relate to the history of the Fort Bowie region, and will be sold at the existing contact station just north of the second fort site, in cooperation with the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association.

Onsite trails that are presently available for visitor use include the trail from the Apache Pass road to the second Fort Bowie, a trail through the second fort site, and side trails to the top of Overlook Ridge and the site of the first Fort Bowie. Additional trails will be developed as needed, to provide for quiet, thoughtful, and unstructured exploration of this historic settlement. The Butterfield stage route within the park boundary will be further delineated, and interpreted. The cooperation of other Federal agencies will be sought in developing an integrated regional trail system.

To ensure that visual intrusions are kept to a minimum – in line with the low-key development concept – no additional onsite facilities are proposed for the historic site in the immediate future. The one-room contact station, residence trailer, and maintenance facilities are considered adequate for proper management of Fort Bowie. Chiricahua National Monument provides additional administrative and maintenance facilities and services to Fort Bowie.

The need for and location of a museum or visitor center will be determined as travel patterns and visitor interests develop.

Assurances for the legal use of the 5/8-mile right-of-way across private land (for administrative purposes only) will be obtained.

ZONING LAND USE: LAND CLASSIFICATION

The land classification for Fort Bowie National Historic Site serves a dual purpose: to catalog these lands as a prerequisite to proper planning, and to establish a guide and control for future preservation and management of park resources. The general basis for land classification is detailed in *Administrative Policies for Historical Areas of the National Park System*. Specifically, all lands within the national historic site will be classified as Class VI (historical and cultural areas), and will be managed in accordance with the *Administrative Policies for Historical Areas of the National Park System* (1973).

APPENDICES

- A: MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
- B: LEGISLATION
- C: BIBLIOGRAPHY
- D: NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR FORT BOWIE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
- E: PLANNING TEAM

A: MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The following objectives formulated by the superintendent of Fort Bowie National Historic Site reflect park management's needs and goals relative to this master plan.

General Management

Operate the historic site and its facilities year round, during daylight hours.

Collect a single, per-person entrance fee when administratively and economically feasible.

Fulfill the following commitments to Congress and to adjacent landowners:

Allow grazing use to continue, except in areas that contain significant historical remains.

Continue Bureau of Land Management administration of grazing use within the historic site.

✓ Ensure that water rights and access to water are retained by previous landowners.

Work with the Bureau of Land Management to zone lands contiguous to the historic site in accordance with its recreation-lands class, to prevent adverse development.

Acquire additional lands for the historic site, under the 1,000-acre limitation, only after mutual agreements and guarantees have been established with adjacent landowners and permittees.

Manage the historic site as an independently funded unit of the Southern Arizona Group, with an onsite superintendent and staff when administratively feasible.

Utilize the technical and professional resources of Chiricahua National Monument on a cooperative and contractual basis, to implement historic-site operations.

Implement formal relationships with local, State, Federal, and other authorities to ensure park input and influence on decisions regarding land management, the environment, and the ecology of the general area.

Ensure adequate administrative-vehicle access along the existing privately owned roadway to the second fort site, to satisfy management needs.

Seek State and county cooperation in preserving the Apache Pass road — from the pass to the mouth of Siphon Canyon — as a historic parkway, with rural highway standards applied.

Seek legislation to raise the development funding ceiling to \$1,000,000.

Resource Management

Develop and implement a program to ensure long-term structural integrity of all historic structures.

Manage the historic site as a primitive historical area by:

Maintaining the ruins in a state of "historic abandonment," without restoration.

Keeping all visible development and use of the area appropriate to that of a southwestern frontier settlement of the period 1854-1894.

Take immediate legal action to invalidate mining claims, if challenges arise.

Obtain (in less-than-fee simple) 30 acres of land immediately adjacent to and straddling Apache Pass.

Arrange for a land exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and the owners of 40 acres of private land at the mouth of Siphon Canyon, in order to add this land to the Fort Bowie National Historic Site buffer zone.

Ensure an adequate domestic water supply for present and future needs.

Locate and research additional historic sites, remains, and artifacts — both on and off site — and provide for their protection and preservation.

Establish a continuing, adequately funded historic and prehistoric research program for both resource management and interpretation.

Visitor Use

Determine and enforce a visitor carrying-capacity figure for the historic site.

Develop a regional trail system in cooperation with other Federal agencies.

Determine and implement a historically accurate form of animal-drawn transportation between the Apache Pass road and the second fort site (in addition to pedestrian access along the existing foot trail) when and if administratively feasible.

Ensure that the potential safety hazards and conflicts between visitors and grazing cattle are kept to a minimum.

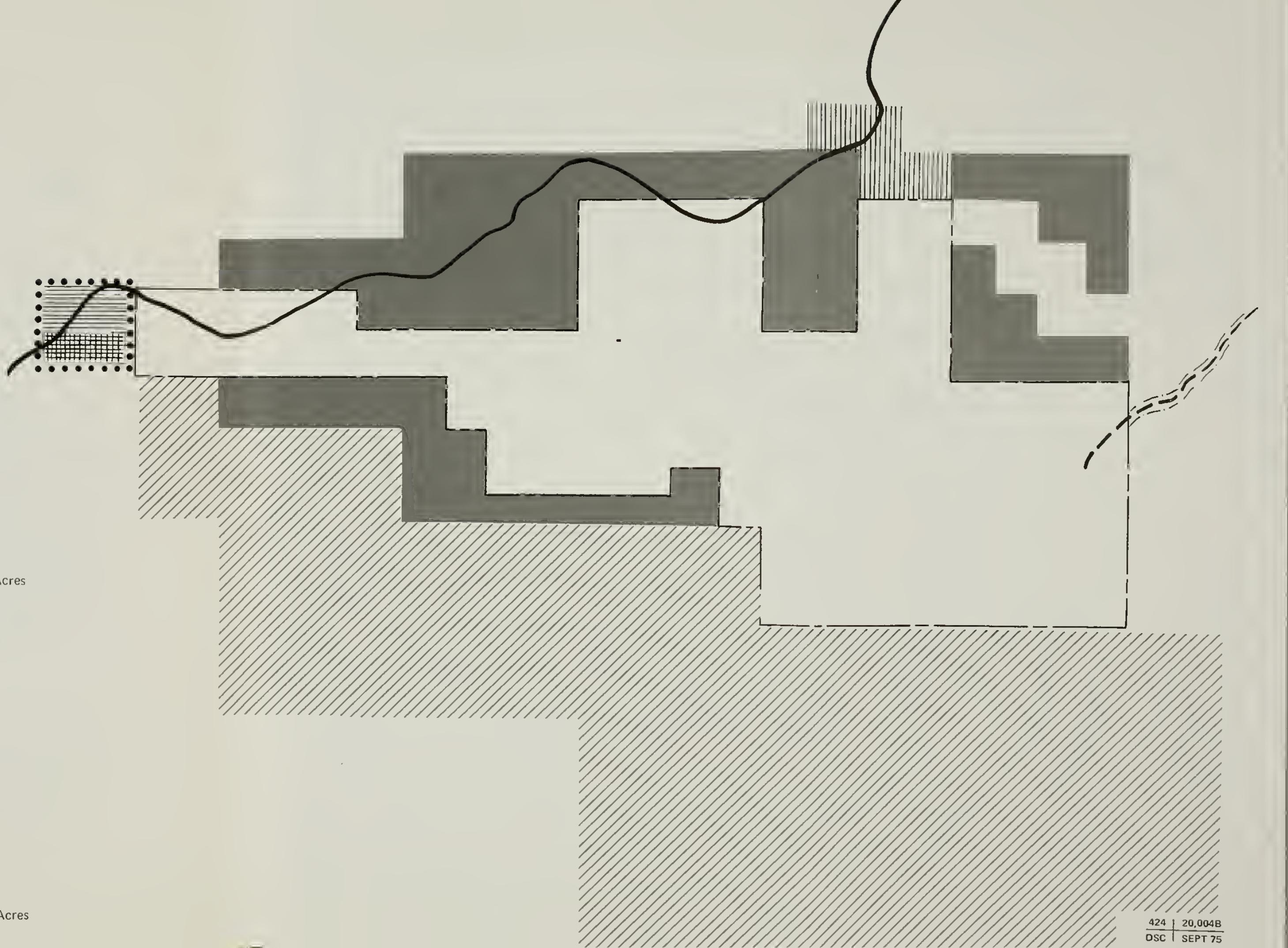
Determine, by monitoring travel patterns and visitor interests, the need for and location of necessary administrative, visitor-service, and visitor-use facilities.

Interpretation

Interpret the historic site as a southwestern frontier settlement of the period 1854-1894, with major themes of the frontier military post, the Butterfield Overland Mail route, and the Chiricahua Apache Indian.

Interpret all significant historical features and sites now existing, as well as additional remains located and identified through future research efforts.

Provide personal-contact interpretive services for all visitors, emphasizing the ethno-ecological story of the historic site.



B: LEGISLATION

Public Law 88-510
88th Congress, H. R. 946
August 30, 1964



An Act

78 STAT. 681.

To authorize the establishment of the Fort Bowie National Historic Site in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to designate, for preservation as the Fort Bowie National Historic Site, the site and remaining historic structures of old Fort Bowie, situated in Cochise County, Arizona, together with such additional land, interests in land, and improvements thereon, as the Secretary in his discretion may deem necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act: Provided, That the Secretary shall designate no more than one thousand acres for inclusion in said site.

Fort Bowie
National His-
torio Site,
Ariz.
Establishment.

SEC. 2. Within the area designated pursuant to section 1 hereof, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized, under such terms, reservations, and conditions as he may deem satisfactory, to procure by purchase, donation, with donated funds, exchange, or otherwise, land and interests in land for the national historic site. When the historic remains of old Fort Bowie and all other privately owned lands within the aforesaid designated area have been acquired as provided in this Act, notice thereof and of the establishment of the Fort Bowie National Historic Site shall be published in the Federal Register. Thereupon all public lands within the designated area shall become a part of the Fort Bowie National Historic Site.

Acquisition of
land.

Publication in
Federal Reg-
ister.

SEC. 3. The Fort Bowie National Historic Site, as constituted under this Act, shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior as a part of the national park system, subject to the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended, the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666), and all laws and regulations of general application to historic areas within the national park system.

Administration.

16 USC 1-4.

16 USC 461-
467.

SEC. 4. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated a sum not to exceed \$550,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Appropriation.

Approved August 30, 1964.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 1297 (Comm. on Interior & Insular Affairs).
SENATE REPORT No. 1280 accompanying S. 91 (Comm. on Interior & Insular Affairs).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 110 (1964):

Aug. 1: S. 91 considered and passed Senate.

Aug. 3: Considered and passed House.

Aug. 14: Considered and passed Senate.

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Various memoranda and correspondence relating to Fort Bowie National Historic Site, Arizona, can be found in the park and land files at the national historic site, and in the park files at Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona.

**D: NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR
FORT BOWIE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Fort Bowie National Historic Site, Arizona

Western Region

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service has prepared an environmental assessment on the following proposed project:

Proposed

Fort Bowie Master Plan

The assessment process did not indicate a significant environmental impact from the proposed action. Consequently, an environmental statement will not be prepared.

The environmental assessment is on file at the above park and will be available for public review on request.

8/3/75

Date

8/22/75

Date

9/15/75

Date

William M. Silvers
Superintendent, Fort Bowie National Historic Site

J. D. V. Clay
General Superintendent, Southern Arizona Group

Howard D. Chapman
Director, Western Region

Environmental Review
Master Plan
Fort Bowie National Historic Site
Arizona

The master plan for Fort Bowie National Historic Site has been prepared to guide the management, development, use and preservation of the historic site's prehistoric, historic and natural resources over a period of at least ten years. An environmental assessment has been prepared to describe the environmental effects of the proposed action and the alternatives to this action that have been considered in the planning process. These documents have been revised in accordance with comments that resulted from their public distribution and from public meetings that were held at Willcox and Bowie, Arizona, on June 5 and 6, 1975.

The plan proposes to acquire 30 acres of grazing land in the vicinity of Apache Pass to complete the land acquisition authorized by Congress in 1964. The owners will receive just compensation for their lands based on the appraised value and will be allowed to continue grazing for the remainder of their lives. Tax loss to the county from the sale of these lands to the Federal government will be negligible and will be offset by additional revenues resulting from sales and services to visitors to the historic site.

Validity investigations will be made on the apparently abandoned unpatented mineral claims within the historic site. If any claims prove valid, the claimants will be compensated for their remaining interest.

Development will be limited to additional maintenance facilities, minimal restroom facilities and an unmanned information shelter as needed. A visitor contact station may be built on a site yet to be determined some time in the future.

The existing interpretive access trail will be extended to complete a loop trail from the second fort site along the crest of Overlook Ridge to the trailhead parking area.

Archeological research will continue to locate other historic and prehistoric sites in the vicinity. No construction will be undertaken without prior archeological clearance by a professional archeologist.

Through cooperation with the County and State, the Apache Pass Road will be maintained to rural highway standards as a scenic road.

Through the cooperation of the Bureau of Land Management additional lands will be withdrawn to provide a protective buffer around the historic site.

Review of these proposed actions has led to a determination that in compliance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 this proposal is not a major Federal action and has no significant adverse impact on the quality of the human environment. Therefore an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

However, due to the significance of the Fort Bowie National Historic Site this property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be afforded an opportunity to comment on future planning documents and specific proposals that would affect the historic site's cultural resources.

E: PLANNING TEAM

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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities to protect and conserve our land and water, energy and minerals, fish and wildlife, parks and recreation areas, and to ensure the wise use of all these resources. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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